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The regular meeting of the Ladies
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on the second and fourth Tuesdays
of each month at 2:30 p. m., at the
Carnegie Library lecture room.

Home Maker

EDITED BY
ALICE F. TALCOTT.

Some Causes of the High Cost of Living.

We hear a great deal nowadays about the high cost of living and the blame for it has been placed upon the trusts, the middlemen, the tariff and other agencies amenable to law, and efforts are being made by legislation and co-operation to bring about conditions which shall tend to bring down prices. This is all well in its way, but even if it succeeds it leaves the main point untouched. If a man who makes a hundred dollars a month spends every cent of it now, the probabilities are that he will spend it all with prices of the necessities of life cut in two. Having the necessities provided, the remainder of his salary will go in luxuries. The truth is that the American people within the last fifty years have developed an appetite for luxury. The working man of today demands much more than the man of wealth enjoyed a few years ago. Thirty years ago in the town of two thousand inhabitants in the middle west where the writer lived, there were probably less than a dozen pianos. Not one family in twenty owned an organ. Three years ago in a city of nine thousand, where the majority of the men were mechanics, I counted sixteen pianos, four organs and two graphophones, besides several horns, violins, accordions, etc., within the radius of one block from my home. The daughter of the day laborer and the laundress is supplied with a piano on the installment plan. And then comes the cost of lessons and books, the cost of which would go far toward clothing the child.

Thirty years ago Wilton and Turkish rugs were unknown outside the large cities. Perhaps there were as many Brussels carpets as there were pianos. People in good circumstance had an engrain carpet on the parlor floor, but the great majority of the homes had rag carpets, which represented a cash outlay of from one-tenth to one-quarter what we now pay for rugs and carpets. Perhaps twenty families in A— (as we will call the writer's native town) had upholstered furniture thirty years ago. Now there are more that have it than there are that do not. Lace curtains were almost unknown. There were few pictures, and these were as a rule chromos or colored lithographs, premiums with magazines, cheaply framed, and the bric-a-brac was mostly china. There were few books or magazines, in many families none at all. The home paper was often the only literature. The kerosene lamp and the candle furnished the artificial light. The telephone was not invented. City water had not been installed and the cistern and the neighborhood well supplied the community, often without a cent of outlay to many families. There was not a bathroom in town. Not having the modern conveniences to provide for, taxes were low. One sewing machine often served a whole neighborhood. Silverware, with the occasional exception of spoons, was never seen in the houses of people in ordinary circumstances. The dishes in common use were ironstone china similar to that now used in cheap hotels. Cut glass and fancy china, now so common, were seen only in the homes of the wealthiest. Gas, gasoline and kerosene stoves and refrigerators were yet to be invented. Not only was the cost of labor and building materials less a generation ago, but the finishing of dwellings was much plainer. There were no fancy windows nor doors, no built-in work, no wiring nor plumbing. The woodwork was of the plainest and either painted or left without any finish at all.

It cost less to clothe a family in those days because less attention was paid to the changes of fashion; consequently good materials were bought; clothes were taken care of and therefore lasted several times as long as they do now. Nobody wants anything to last in these days, for if it did they would not have an excuse for getting new. A silk dress used to last a lifetime and was worn only by an adult and on proper occasions. Now it is the ordinary street and school dress of many a young girl, who would be more suitably clad in gingham. Gold watches and diamonds were once the mark of wealth, but with the installment plan anyone can have them.

The bill for food was one-half as much as it is now, not merely because prices were lower, but because the luxuries of that time are the necessities of today. I will venture

to say that not one-tenth the amount of canned and bottled goods or fresh fruit and vegetables were sold in the smaller towns thirty years ago that there is today. What one could not raise in these lines he did without. Cakes and confectionery were not every-day articles of food in the home of the working man, but were kept for holidays and for company. I think many of the grandparents will agree with me when I say that the average child of today has as much money spent on him for sweets, toys and other treats every year as was spent on one of them during their entire childhood.

These are a few of the items which go to make up the present high cost of living. If it costs more to live now than it did a few years ago, it is largely because we live better. The writer does not say that all this is extravagance, or that we should go back to the old ways in all things, but merely calls to mind the old saying that "They that dance must pay the piper." We should place the blame where it belongs and seek the remedy in our own method of living, by eliminating so far as possible the unnecessary expenses.

RECIPES.

Johnnycake.

Dissolve a teaspoonful of soda in 1 1/2 cups of buttermilk, add 6 heaping tablespoonfuls of yellow corn meal and 3 of white flour, 1 of sugar and a teaspoonful of salt. Stir and bake till brown.

Apple Johnnycake.

Add to the above recipe 1 table-
spoonful of sugar and 1 apple sliced thin. This is well liked by children and makes a cheap dessert.

Apple Pie Hint.

Sometimes the apples do not cook as quickly as the crust and are found hard when the pie or pudding is eaten. To prevent this prepare your apples and season them as for pie, add a little water and place them in the oven till they begin to soften. Pour off the juice before using and this will obviate over-juicy pies.

Quick Graham Bread.

One pint graham flour, 1 pint flour, 1 teaspoonful soda, 1 teaspoonful salt, 1 1/2 pints sour milk.

WILSON ON WARPATH

President Goes to New Jersey to
Make Fight for Jury Reforms
in the State Courts.

Washington, May 1.—President Woodrow Wilson, in the role of a fighting man, will be presented to residents of New Jersey tonight and tomorrow. Angered by the opposition his plan for jury reforms, formulated while he was governor of the state, is meeting in New Jersey, the president left for Newark at 3 o'clock this afternoon to lock horns with the opponents of the measure.

The president is due in Newark at 7 o'clock and will make his first speech there. He made it plain before leaving Washington that his speeches will be vitriolic in character and that he intends to roast former Senator Smith, his old-time enemy, to a nice brown turn. President Wilson openly declared that he intended to defy the so-called non-partisan machine which he alleges has combined with the Smith machine to prevent enactment by the legislature of a law reforming the state jury system.

The machine combination was expected to control the special session of the legislature next week and wants the jury reform bill submitted to a referendum vote. The president maintains that this would defeat the bill's support. He also believes that if the question is left to a referendum the machine will be able to defeat the plan in the counties where in Jersey City, Newark and Hoboken are located.

An Old One Retold.

"They thought more of the Legion of Honor in the time of the first Napoleon than they do now," said a well-known Frenchman. "The emperor one day met an old one-armed veteran."

"How did you lose your arm?" he asked.

"Sire, at Austerlitz."

"And were you not decorated?"

"No, sire."

"Then here is my cross for you; I make you chevalier."

"Your majesty, names me chevalier because I have lost one arm! What would your majesty have done had I lost both arms?"

"Oh, in that case I should have made you officer of the legion."

"Whereupon the old soldier immediately drew his sword and cut off his other arm."

There is no particular reason to doubt this story. The only question is, how did he do it?—Everybody's Magazine.

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W. C. T. U.

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

This thought of Solomon's has been scoffed at by unbelievers and unfaithful parents often. To leave out the "when he is old" is discouraging to parents and to teachers, who do not see their prayers and efforts bear fruit at once. We are so faithless, so impatient concerning development in our children. We are not so in seed planting, but have faith that in due time we will see develop from the seed a living growth that if properly cared for and nourished by keeping weeds from choking out sunlight, in the future we expect fruit. How tenderly one uproots the weeds to spare the plant! Is a child less sensitive? If the seed we plant should grow to a tree we can support it while young and tender and make it grow straight. "When it is old" it will stay straight of its own strength. We prune the faulty limbs, then we see our efforts rewarded.

God says "train." I wonder why we are so impatient to see results. I also wonder why God's plans have been so long being understood by mothers and teachers. How thankful today to see both alike working together to "train up the child in the way he should go."

God has raised up women to look into the meaning of His word which hitherto has been crushed out by giving or wasting time to less important duties.

The time is ripe to teach boys and girls the meaning of life, its privileges and duty, to help make the world better, to think of a beautiful, well-trained, fruitful life that will "bear an hundred fold" of rewards in manhood and womanhood. Every mother's prayer is for her child's good. When we make mistakes through ignorance, God may forgive us.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union was born by suffering mothers. God heard their cry. None but He can estimate its good to humanity. Happy are those who braved the storms of ridicule and contempt and now behold the fruits of their labors.

The temperance tree bears fruits with seeds and are planted around the globe. Frances E. Willard, as she stood on our Oregon shore at Newport, viewing the great Pacific ocean, conceived the thought of belting the world with the white ribbon cause, for God, home and every land. Native land was not big enough, so a "round the world" missionary was ordained in her mind, and resulted in sending our own founder of this union, Mrs. Levet, to plant the white ribbon seed in every land. On April 27, 1884, our tree was planted. The roots took hold in our granite soil to stand hard storms of opposition. It would have been uprooted many times by even church members, who would feel reverence from licensed saloons was hindered by us. It was, too, by fighting hard. Sometimes being outwitted by unlawful trickery, but kept at it, knowing God was on our side. In early fights for temperance men were so afraid of their "business" that only a few brave ones stood up and faced the foe. Our plea to God for men to be strong has been answered in the L. T. L. boys growing to manhood, and today we glory in the noble temperance men in our nation. The serpent's head is being crushed by both men and women.

Another star has risen in the sky—the Parent-Teacher Circle. Strength in union, noble work for more seed sowing. God is opening the eyes of our noble women to see the cause of results as never before. How glorious the vision! How grand to live in a day of freedom to help break the fetters of the oppressed without fear of being misunderstood! "Ignorance is the curse of God. Knowledge the wing wherewith we fly to heaven."

"Build on, ye brave white ribbon host, You grand and lasting monuments! Not marble shafts reared to the sky. Not temples vast that time defy. But these, your monuments, must be God-given souls refined from dross And sculptured for eternity."

MRS. A. H. R.
Ashland, Ore., April 22, 1913.

The Tidings for artistic printing.

Fire Alarm System.

We print below the city fire alarm signals. Readers of the Tidings are urged to cut out this slip and paste it in the telephone directory or in some other conspicuous place. A reprint of the signals will appear from time to time in this paper:

CITY FIRE ALARM SYSTEM.

Fire Chief, phone 74.
Chief of Police, phone 160.
Residence, phone 410-J.
2-6 Bells
Cor. Main and Wimer streets.
2-8 Bells
City Hall.
3-5 Bells
Cor. Granite and Nutley streets.
4-6 Bells
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5-3 Bells
Cor. Iowa and Fairview streets.
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whether you take treatment or not. Come and find out what your disease really is, and whether or not you can be cured. By the latest and best methods I treat NERVO-VITAL DEBILITY, VARICOSE VEINS AND ULCERS, BLOOD AND SKIN DISEASES, NERVOUS DISEASES, KIDNEY AND LIVER DISEASES, BLADDER TROUBLES, DISEASES OF THE STOMACH, HEART, LUNGS AND BOWELS, PILES AND RECTAL DISEASES, CATARRH, SCIATICA, RHEUMATISM, EAR DISEASES, ECZEMA, SCROFULA and all forms of CHRONIC AND NERVOUS DISEASES OF BOTH SEXES.

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